not very apparent, but we suppose that what was meant was, that the delegation were to have notice that such a change of policy had been determined on. Nothing more, certainly, can be inferred.

It is, therefore, most surprising to find Messrs. Miles and Keitt of the delegation making the statement first quoted above, that the President had bound himself in honor not to reinforce the forts or change their relative military status, unless they were attacked. For, whatever the President might have meant by what he said about the matter being 'a matter of honor among gentlemen/' he certainly was not at the time understood to mean that he was binding himself to adhere indefinitely to Ms then existing intention not to send reinforcements to the forts or make any change in their military situation; the remark about the possibility of n *change of policy* on the part of the President, made by one of the delegation just after the President had spoken about the matter being " a matter of honor," settles this point. The choice of the word " policy " is conclusive. If the delegation had at that time thought that the President had become bound ' in honor n not to change the existing situation, they would assuredly have corrected the speaker.

What President Buchanan meant by his remark about the matter being " a matter of honor among gentlemen/' is made plain, by his adding: " I do not know that any paper or writing is necessary. We understand each other." That is, these gentlemen had explained their views fully in conversation; he relied on their having told him the exact truth in